

Section 3 Notetaking Study Guide

Question to Think About As you read Section 3 in your textbook and take notes, keep this section focus question in mind: **What were the causes and effects of the Texas War for Independence and the Mexican-American War?**

► Use these charts to record key information from the section.

Events Leading to Texas's Independence

American settlers in Texas came into conflict with the Mexican government because they were slaveholders even though the Mexican government had abolished slavery. In 1830, Mexico banned further immigration.

After Santa Anna established a(n) dictatorship, Texans declared independence. Mexican troops laid siege to the Alamo, a mission in San Antonio. Although the Texans were defeated, this event inspired Texans to fight for independence. Later, the Texans defeated Santa Anna's army at San Jacinto.

Sam Houston became president of the new Republic of Texas. He hoped that the United States would annex Texas. However, public opinion in the United States was divided because some Americans opposed the annexation of Texas.

Annexing Texas and Oregon

James K. Polk negotiated a treaty with Britain to divide Oregon, which became the states of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Tensions with Mexico increased because Mexico had never recognized Texas independence. Also, the United States claimed that the southern Texas border was the Rio Grande, while Mexico claimed it was the Nueces River.

The Mexican-American War

When war broke out between Mexico and the United States, it was most popular among northerners and westerners who wanted territory. Many northerners, however, opposed the war because they thought it was an attempt to expand slavery.

Stephen Kearny led troops that captured San Antonio and later California.

General Zachary Taylor won a victory at the Battle of Buena Vista. An American army under General Zachary Taylor captured Veracruz and then marched on to Mexico City.

The Treaty of Guanajuato formally ended the war. Under the treaty, Mexico recognized U.S. sovereignty over Texas and ceded a vast territory known as the Mexican Cession to the United States. This territory included present-day California, Nevada.

In the Texas Annexation of 1853, the United States paid Mexico \$10 million for a narrow strip of present-day Texas.

Refer to this page to answer the Chapter 13 Focus Question on page 211.